has done some pioneering work in order to control the monkey menace in and around Shimla and the Municipal Corporation of Ahmedabad has made efforts to control the stray dog population in Ahmedabad city by way of sterilization of stray dogs through NGO.

Death of elephants at Lakhari Sanctuary

1071. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is aware of death of two elephants after the "Operation Gaja" at Lakhari Sanctuary in Gajapathi District of Orissa;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to prevent these deaths?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) As per report of the Government of Orissa, death of one elephant took place after two of them were captured and translocated from Andhra Pradesh and released in Lakhari Sanctuary in Orissa. The enquiry conducted by the officials of the Government of Orissa ascribed the death due to trauma caused to the elephant in the course of capture and translocation.

(c) Since then the process of capture and transportation of elephants has been suspended.

Elephant Menace

1072. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 10 people including a journalist were killed by wild elephants in Srikakulam and Vijayanagaram District of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the Wild Life Board adopted any steps to prevent those elephants destroying lives and property of people; and

(c) the mechanism that was adopted to control elephant menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) As per reports of the State Government, 10 people have been killed by wild elephants in Srikakulam and Vijayanagaram Districts of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) and (c) The State Government has been provided financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 20.00 lakhs to control elephant menace.

Menace of Stray dogs etc.

1073. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that under Article 48 of the Constitution, the State *inter-alia* is required to protect and safeguard the forests and wildlife, especially in preventing the menace of stray cattle;

(b) if so, whether any effective law has been made to prevent the owners of bovine animals including cattle and cows, dogs, etc. from being let loose, thereby harming the citizens by reckless "bites" by dogs; and

(c) the manner in which Government proposes to save the vulnerable sections of society from this menace of stray dogs, etc. which is persisting in full swing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Financial assistance is provided by the Central Government to Animal Welfare Organizations, through out the country for sterilization and immunization of stray dogs for control of their population and rabies.

Industrial units in residential areas

1074. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that despite the orders of the Member Secretary UP Pollution Control Board, for the closure of an industrial unit running in residential area of Buxi Bazar, Khuldabad, Allahabad no action has been taken so far;

(b) if so, the reasons for not closing such industrial units which are running in the residential areas violating the provisions of the Environmental Acts; and

(c) the action Government and Central Pollution Control Board propose to take for the closure of such units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) As per the information furnished by the Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board (UPPCB), the Board has identified M/s Natraj Tiles located in the residential area of Buxi bazar, Allahabad to be violating the provisions of the relevant environmental Act. The UPPCB has requested the Nagar Nigam, Allahabad to take action against the industry as directed by the Hon'ble High Court on 13.08.2003 in Writ Petition No. 34957/2003 Smt. Mithilesh Jain (Agra) v/s State of U.P. the UPPCB has also issued show cause notice to the industry under Section 31A of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 dated 27.11.07. No Objection Certificate (NOC) is not being issued for establishing any industry in residential area by the UPPCB.

Import of environment hazardous waste

1075. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that ship loads of environment hazardous waste are being imported to the country from developed countries;

(b) whether it is a fact that domestic waste from US has been imported *via* Cochin Port;

(c) if so, details thereof;

(d) the action taken to prevent such incidents; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Import of hazardous waste into the country is subject